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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

United Nations Population Award

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on the United Nations Population Award, established by the Assembly in its resolution 36/201 of 17 December 1981. The report, which covers 1994, was prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112 of 26 April 1982 (see annex).

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ANNEX

Report on the United Nations Population Award (1994)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 17 December 1981, the General Assembly adopted its resolution 36/201 entitled "Establishment of the United Nations Population Award". The Award is presented annually to an individual or individuals, to an institution or institutions or to any combination thereof, for the most outstanding contribution to the awareness of population questions or to their solutions.

2. The laureate(s) is selected by the Committee of the United Nations Population Award. The Committee is composed of representatives of 10 States Members of the United Nations, elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of three years.

3. In 1991, the Economic and Social Council elected the following countries to serve on the Committee for a period of three years, beginning in January 1992: Belarus, Burundi, Cameroon, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands and Rwanda. The Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) serve as ex officio members. The Executive Director of UNFPA acts as the Secretary of the Committee. The Award consists of a diploma, a gold medal and a monetary prize.

4. On 5 December 1986, the General Assembly, in its decision 41/445, amended article 2, paragraph 1 of the Regulations Governing the United Nations Population Award, contained in the annex to resolution 36/201, so that an individual and an institution may share the Award.

5. On 26 May 1987, the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 1987/129, amended the rules of procedure of the Committee accordingly.

6. In February 1994, the Committee elected Mr. Nicolaas H. Biegman, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations, as Chairman of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award.

7. The following five eminent individuals served as honourary members in an advisory capacity to the Committee: Mr. Takeo Fukuda, former Prime Minister of Japan; Mr. Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, former President of Mexico; Mrs. Victoria Sekitoleko, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of the Republic of Uganda; Mr. Bradford Morse, former Administrator, United Nations Development Programme; and Mrs. Robin Chandler Duke, Chairperson of Population Action International.

II. THE 1994 UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

8. A total of 18 nominations were received for the 1994 United Nations Population Award. After a thorough review of the nominations and, taking into account the views offered by the honourary members, the Committee for the United

Nations Population Award selected President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation, a voluntary non-governmental organization in Turkey, as the 1994 laureates.

9. President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak was chosen by the Committee for his national and international leadership in population issues in Egypt. In 1981, he created and chaired the National Population Council, a body which brought together all government agencies to chart a sound strategy and to implement effective family planning programmes. He has continuously stressed the need for slowing population growth. He introduced family planning and population issues into the country's five-year plans and has recently established a new Ministry for Population and Family Welfare. President Mubarak has served twice as the President of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), where he stressed the need for the stabilization of population growth. Under his direction, Egypt has participated in all international population conferences. He invited the International Conference on Population and Development to meet at Cairo in September 1994.

10. The Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation was chosen for its achievements in improving the quality of life in Turkey by expanding and increasing the efficiency of family planning services. Founded in 1985 by a group of eminent industrialists and scientists, the Foundation addresses the population problems of Turkey. It has undertaken a wide range of activities to improve family planning services, including the development of national educational campaigns and training courses and seminars for local, national and business leaders. The Foundation developed its own contraceptive distribution services linking family planning to a broader range of services, including maternal and child health, and nutrition. Much of its clinical service work has been in factories, among migratory workers and in rural south-eastern provinces. Credited with raising public awareness of population problems, it also provides information and services to isolated areas.

III. FINANCIAL MATTERS

11. As at 1 January 1993, the Trust Fund had a total of $627,472. Income from interest from 1993 amounted to $34,361. Expenditures in 1993, including the prizes, totalled $37,121. The closing balance as at 31 December 1993 totalled $624,712.

IV. OTHER MATTERS

12. In April 1994, the Economic and Social Council elected the following countries to serve on the Committee for a period of three years, beginning in January 1995: Belarus, Burundi, Cameroon, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Japan, Netherlands and Zaire. One more member from the Asian Group is to be elected.